

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

1. (Amended) An ignition coil for an engine comprising:
a central core assembly including a rod-shaped core, said central core assembly having two longitudinal ends and corners at said longitudinal ends;
a primary spool and a secondary spool arranged around an outer circumference of the central core assembly;
a primary coil wound on the primary spool and a secondary coil wound on the secondary spool, one of the coils being disposed radially inside the other of the coils; and
a first buffer member part covering said two longitudinal end corners of the central core assembly.
2. (Amended) The ignition coil of claim 1, further comprising:
a second buffer member part arranged on at least one of the two longitudinal ends of the central core assembly.
3. (Amended) The ignition coil of claim 1, wherein:
the first buffer member part is formed into a tube shape and has a hole therein on at least one of the two longitudinal ends of the central core assembly; and
the hole is smaller in diameter than the central core assembly.

Kindly cancel claims 4-15 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly add the following new claims:

45. (New) An ignition coil for an engine comprising:

a central core assembly including a rod-shaped core, said central core assembly having two longitudinal ends and corners at said longitudinal ends;

an insulating spool arranged around the core assembly, the spool being made of a resin material having a coefficient of thermal expansion different from a coefficient of thermal expansion of the core assembly;

a coil wound on the insulating spool; and

an elastic buffer member disposed between the central core assembly and the spool and covering at least one of said longitudinal end corners of the central core assembly to thereby restrict a direct contact between said at least one longitudinal end corner of the central core assembly and the spool.

46. (New) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein:

the elastic buffer member includes a cylindrical part and an annular plate part integrally extending from a longitudinal end of the cylindrical part;

the cylindrical part covers a cylindrical surface of the central core assembly; and

the annular plate part covers a longitudinal end surface of the central core assembly.

47. (New) The ignition coil of claim 46, wherein the annular plate part is thicker than the cylindrical part.

48. (New) The ignition coil of claim 46, wherein the annular plate part has a hole at a radial center thereof.

49. (New) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein the elastic buffer member is formed from an elastomer resin.

50. (New) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein the elastic buffer member is shaped in a form of a thermally-contractable tube.

51. (New) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein the central core assembly includes a permanent magnet attached to a longitudinal end of the core and has an end corner that is covered with the elastic buffer member.

52. (New) An ignition coil for an engine comprising:
a central core assembly including a rod-shaped core said central core assembly having a longitudinal end surface and a radial outer surface;
an insulating spool arranged around the central core assembly, the spool made of a resin material having a coefficient of thermal expansion different from a coefficient of thermal expansion of the central core assembly;
a coil wound on the insulating spool; and
an elastic member disposed in contact with said longitudinal end surface of the central core assembly and in contact with said radial outer surface of the central core assembly near the longitudinal end surface, thereby restricting the central core assembly and the spool from directly contacting each other.

53. (New) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein:
said insulating spool and said coil are provided as a secondary side for generating a high ignition voltage; and
another spool with coil wound thereon are provided as a primary side radially outside said insulating spool and said coil of the secondary side.--